



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

payee. See *National Bank of North America v. Bangs*, 106 Mass. 241; *Danvers Bank v. Salem Bank*, 151 Mass. 230, 24 N. E. 44.

In regard to the mooted question as to whether a check operates as an assignment, it is stated that one class of cases affirms that a check is an assignment as between a drawer and payee so that a bona fide holder is preferred to the creditors of the drawer under a subsequent assignment in insolvency, and that upon presentment the bank is brought into privity with the holder, and is liable to him for improper refusal to pay. And that a countermand from the drawer is no excuse for such refusal. "Upon this side we find a goodly array of authorities, and all the advanced, clear and independent thought and reasoning" (892). Illinois and South Carolina are the strongholds of the doctrine. However that may be, it is certainly contrary to the weight of authority in this country, that a check is neither a legal nor an equitable assignment as between drawer and payee, nor a sufficient foundation for an action by the holder against the bank. And see *Negotiable Instruments Act*, secs. 127, 189.

Part II (1213-1405), treats of the National Banking Laws and their construction, the U. S. Revised Statutes of 1878 and subsequent acts with notes upon the cases, making practically an annotated National Banking Law, which will be of service because of its scientific arrangement and treatment.

Altogether, Mr. Morse's work as revised by Mr. Parsons is of exceeding value, and will continue to be the standard on the subject in this country, and be quoted with approval in the future as in the past.

H. C. B.

A Commentary on the Law of Mines and Mining Rights. By Wil-son I. Snyder, of the Utah Bar. T. H. Flood and Company, Chicago. 1902. 2 vols., sheep, pp. 1464. 36 illustrative cuts.

These volumes are in every respect an excellent production. The author's commentaries are crisp, clean cut and free from the involved, ultra-judicial style—an essential requisite in treatment of a subject so intricate and so little understood as the law of mining and mining claims. In this connection, the many drawings—most of them from the records of adjudicated controversies—are of especial value. The author evidences his long practical experience as a mining lawyer, and as a thinker rather than a mere compiler, by an occasional candid criticism of the courts and statutes, but without burdening his pages with profitless discussions. (See e. g. pp. 662-4, where under Sub-Surface and Extra-Lateral Rights the vexed questions of application of the true dip and strike from the apex of a vein are considered.) Part XIII—Miscellaneous Titles, Conveyances and Contracts—which includes mining leases, oil and gas boring, etc., might well have been expanded to include brief treatment of the rights and remedies of shareholders in various bonded-claim corporations and promotion companies.

The volumes are typographically satisfying; with all the aids and indexes for most convenient reference. The appendices embody the federal laws, a code of State statutes, and forms in patent proceedings. The citations are very full, including constant references to Lindley on Mines, standard geologies, etc.

The work is general in character, comprehensive in scope, perhaps as logical in arrangement as the subject admits, and is destined to become distinctly authoritative in a great and growing branch of law.

H. M. H.

Commercial Trusts, The Growth and Rights of Aggregated Capital.

By John R. Dos Passos. G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York. 1 vol., pp. 137.

An argument delivered before the Industrial Commission at Washington, D. C., in 1899, corrected and revised, 1901. This little volume presents to us the views of one man only, on a subject fairly obscured by multitudinous and diverse opinions, but in exposition so simple and straightforward as to carry a great deal of enlightenment and conviction. The style is not so much that of the economist as of the intelligent American lawyer of to-day, who knows the theories but who cannot be led away from the facts. In his treatment, Mr. Dos Passos shows, by historical illustration, the absolute impotence of legislation struggling against natural trade laws; emphasizes States-rights in the question of Federal interference with corporations, and shows, in an interesting manner, his reasons for believing that this cry for publicity is uncalled for, the parties interested, namely, the State, the Public, and the Stockholder, being already sufficiently protected and that there is no public necessity of the kind warranting Federal interference. He advocates specific legislation against any corporation enjoying franchises or privileges not granted to or enjoyed by other persons or corporations, and that other corporate abuses be reached by effecting homogeneity of State laws. The author, at every step, defends the alleged evils of the "resulting monopolies," or the so-called trusts.

G. R. J.

The Administration of Dependencies. By Alpheus H. Snow. G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York. 1902. Cloth, pp. 604.

The author states in his introduction that the work has been undertaken in order to ascertain the meaning of that clause of the Constitution which provides that "Congress shall have power to dispose of and make all needful rules and regulations respecting the territory or other property belonging to the U. S." (Sec. III, Art. 3). The book itself may perhaps be summarized by the sub-title: "A Study of the Evolution of the Federal Empire with Special Reference to American Colonial Problems." In view of the recent territorial acquisitions of our government, it is a most timely work and one fitted to be of great value to all students of this modern problem. The study is purely historical and, save in the chapter on "Imperial Obligations," singularly free from